

I am attaching a pictorial testimony in support of the proposed strengthening of Iowa's floodplain laws. As a Cedar Falls City Council member, I have seen what weak laws can do to a community. It is critical that we go beyond the "100 year plus 1 foot"; we have had brand new neighborhoods built to that specification and all took 4 feet of water in their living rooms. We can not continue this devastating pattern and saddle future Iowans with the costs. I intend to attend the hearing and share a few more ideas in support of the proposed changes.

Thanks,

Kamyar Enshayan

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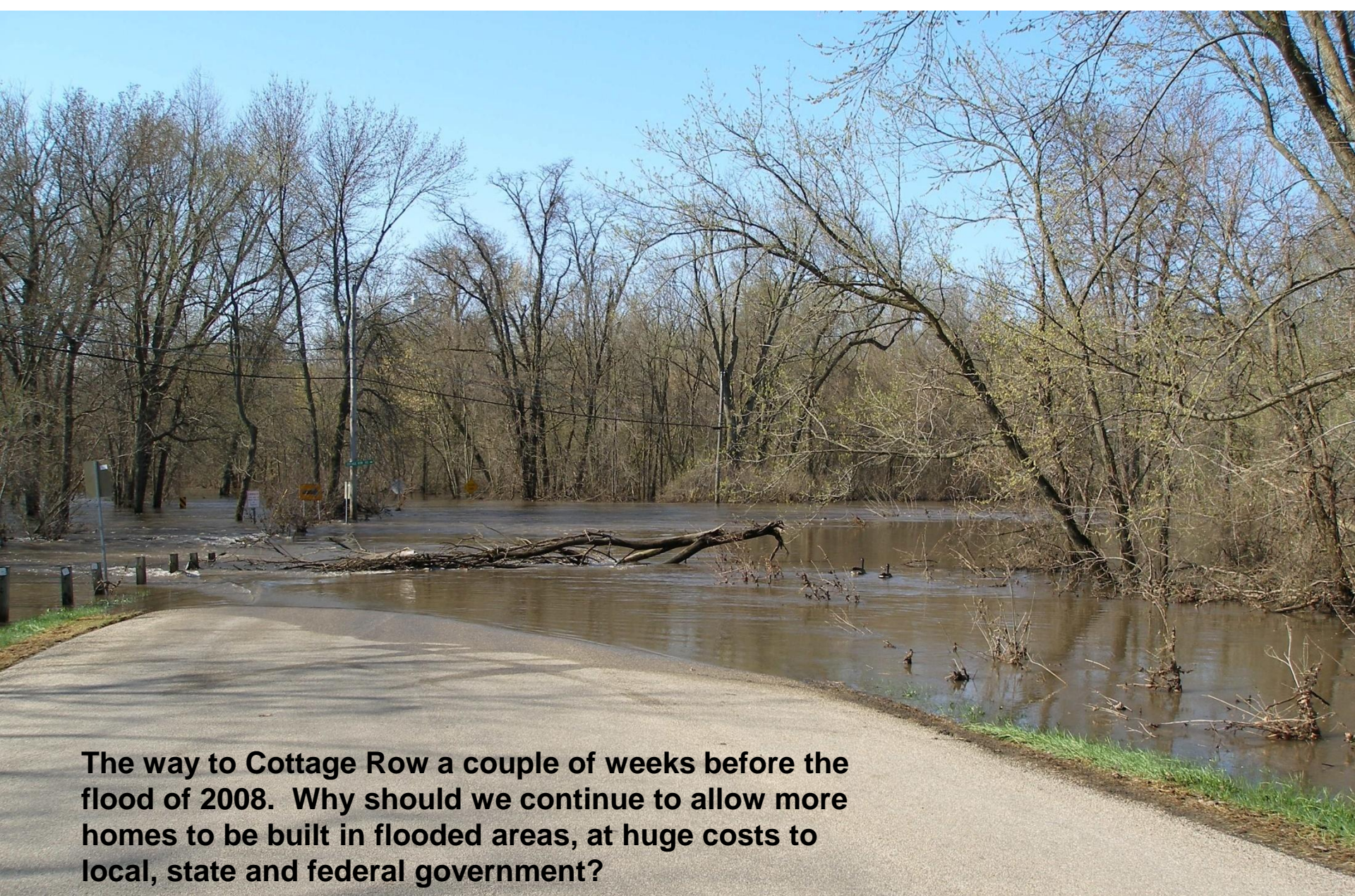
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Iowa needs better floodplain laws:
Several examples from Cedar Falls





Looking East over Cottage Row



The way to Cottage Row a couple of weeks before the flood of 2008. Why should we continue to allow more homes to be built in flooded areas, at huge costs to local, state and federal government?

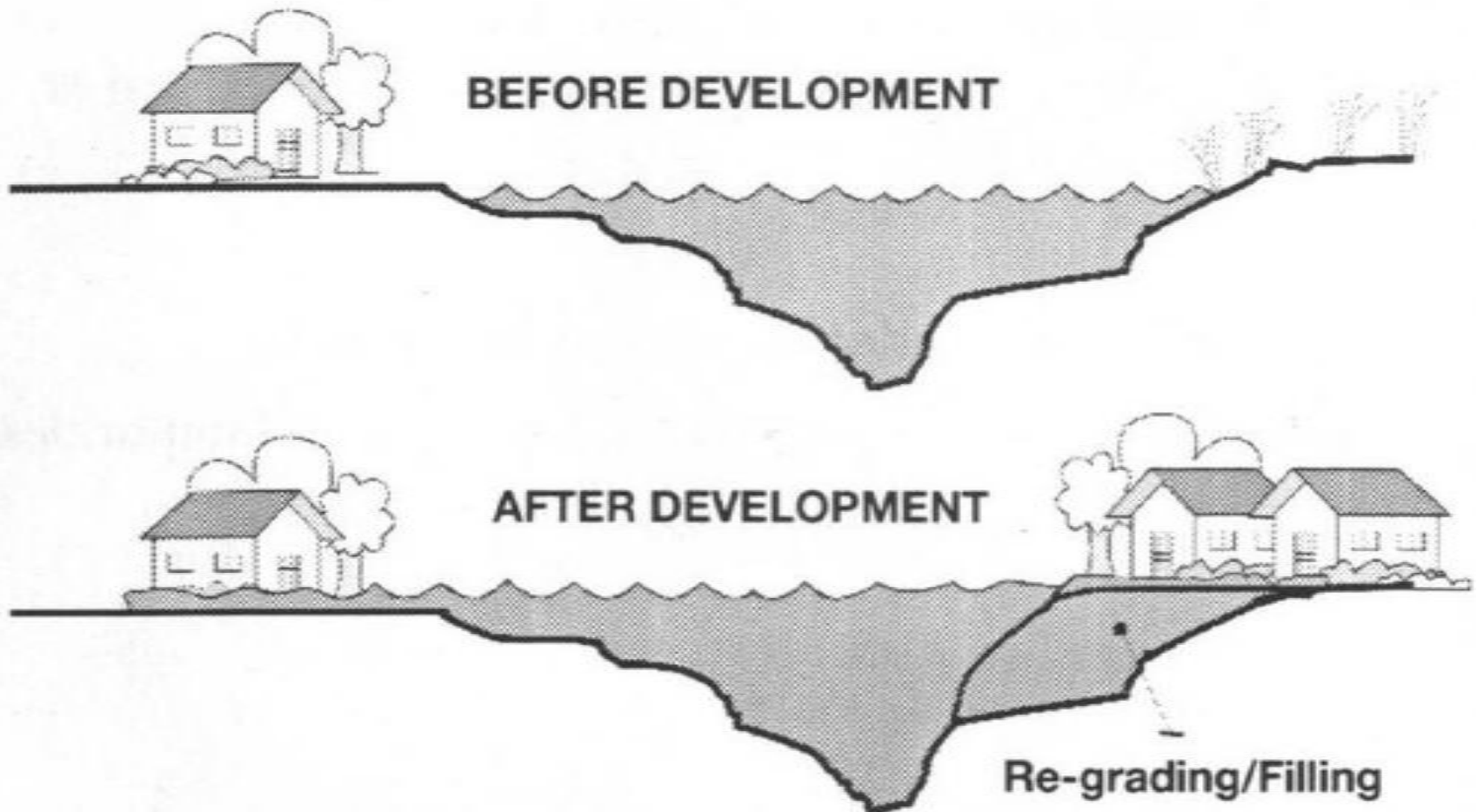


2008 flood washed this house away; the house was rebuilt in the floodway again, because the local Board of Adjustment allowed it .



Brand new homes built in the floodplain by current rules, all had 4 feet of water in the living room.

Filling the floodplain will increase risks of flooding for other property owners





Common urban floodplain to be developed; we need laws that give more room for our streams and rivers

A large, leafy green tree stands on a grassy bank. To the left, a portion of a red brick building is visible. The right side of the image shows a flooded area with murky water. The text "So that we do not create more risk for others" is overlaid in white on the grass.

So that we do not create more risk for others